

BEFORE  
THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION OF  
SOUTH CAROLINA  
DOCKET NO. 1999-447-C - ORDER NO. 2000-0205  
FEBRUARY 29, 2000

IN RE: Joint Application of Discount Long Distance, ) ORDER  
Inc. and Cincinnati Bell Long Distance, Inc. ) APPROVING  
for Nunc Pro Tunc Approval of Asset ) TRANSACTION  
Transfer. )

This matter comes before the Public Service Commission of South Carolina (the Commission) on the Joint Application for *nunc pro tunc* approval of an asset transfer from Discount Long Distance, Inc. (DLD) to Cincinnati Bell Long Distance, Inc. (Cincinnati Bell). If approved, Cincinnati Bell will continue to provide telecommunications services to current DLD customers under existing service arrangements.

The Commission's Executive Director required that a Notice of Filing be published in newspapers of general circulation, one time, in DLD's service area. DLD filed proof that it had complied with the instructions of the Executive Director. No Petitions to Intervene or Protests were filed.

Accordingly, DLD filed a Motion for Expedited Review of this matter, along with verified testimony. The Motion is granted, and we will consider the verified testimony as if it had been given from the stand.

John Schwing, Secretary/Treasurer of Cincinnati Bell, testified. Schwing noted that, by an Asset Purchase Agreement dated April 30, 1999, Cincinnati Bell agreed to

acquire the assets of DLD, with the exception of certain “excluded assets.” The closing was subsequently held for this asset purchase transaction, for which the two parties now seek *nunc pro tunc* approval. The two companies now jointly seek Commission approval of the asset transfer.

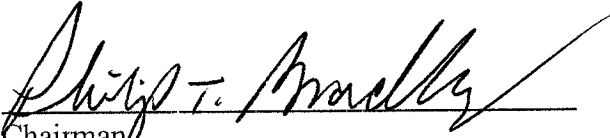
According to Schwing, no customers were adversely affected by the asset acquisition. Cincinnati Bell will continue to operate in South Carolina pursuant to its own authority. Cincinnati Bell will provide services to DLD customers under their existing service arrangements. Accordingly, also according to Schwing, the transaction will have no adverse effect on the customers of either company.

Schwing also notes that the transaction is in the public interest, and will not result in a reduction of competition in the marketplace.

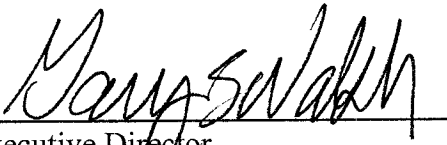
We hereby approve the asset transfer *nunc pro tunc*, based on the testimony presented. We see no adverse effects on the customers of either Company. Further, we believe that the transaction is in the public interest, and no competition will be obstructed. DLD’s Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity is cancelled and its tariff is hereby withdrawn.

This Order shall remain in full force and effect until further Order of the Commission.

BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION:

  
Chairman

ATTEST:

  
Executive Director

(SEAL)